



# Maṭodzi's kindness

Tshedza Tlhako

Busisiwe Ndlovu





There once was a girl named Maṭodzi.

Maṭodzi lived in a village with her mother and grandmother.



One day, Maṭodzi's mother asked her to take a message to her aunt in another village.

"Follow the route we usually use," her mother reminded Maṭodzi.



Maṭodzi followed the familiar path to her aunt's house and delivered the message.

As she was on her way home, she heard a weak voice nearby saying, "Please help me."



Maṭodzi looked around and saw a woman lying on the road.

She greeted the woman and asked, “Why are you lying here?”



The woman replied, "I am weak and ill, and very far from my home."

Maṭodzi felt pity for the woman.





She said to the woman, "I will take you to my home because it's near."

Maṭodzi helped the woman to get up. They walked very slowly until they arrived.



Maṭodzi and her mother and grandmother took care of the woman until she was well.





The woman was very grateful to them for looking after her.

She praised Maṭodzi for being courageous and caring.



The woman said to Maṭodzi and her family, “I will never forget what you did for me.

After three days have passed, I want you to make two wishes.”



After three days, Maṭodzi and her mother and grandmother made two wishes.

Their first wish was to have a beautiful house.



The second wish was to have a forest next to the house so that they didn't have to walk far to fetch wood.

Both their wishes came true, just as the woman had said.



Maṭodzi and her family lived happily in their lovely house by the forest.



Ulwazi Lwethu is a Zenex Foundation funded and initiated project to develop a series of graded and leisure African language readers and teacher support materials. This project is targeted at teaching and supporting learners in the Foundation Phase to improve their home language reading and understanding. The readers have been originated in nine African languages in collaboration with Molteno Institute for Language and Literacies, Nelson Mandela Institute for Education and Rural Development, Room to Read South Africa, and Saide. All resources are developed as Open Education Resources (OER).



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Title: Mačodzi's kindness

Author/s: Tshedza Tlhako

Translator/s: Tshedza Tlhako

Illustrator/s: Busisiwe Ndlovu

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